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TITLE: PURIFICATION OF ISOPROPYL ALCOHOL

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ABSTRACT:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To provide a method for purifying isopropyl alcohol, by which the crude alcohol can be purified to the highly purified one suitable for washing, etc., when producing a semiconductor by distilling the crude isopropyl alcohol with a snecific amount of added water to effectively separate and remove the impurity elements such as As and B.

SOLUTION: This method for purifying isopropyl alcohol comprises a step for adding (B) water in an amount excess the azeotropic composition with the isopropyl alcohol Z (preferably the composition after the addition of the water is 75-85% component Z and 15-25% water) to (A) a crude isopropyl alcohol containing impurity elements (e.g. the one obtained by a direct vapor-phase hydrating method and usually containing 0.1-1ppt As, B, Se or Ge, and 20-200ppm water), and a step for distilling the crude isopropyl alcohol with the added water. A low boiling point esterified material of the impurity elements such as As, B, Se and Ge is hydrated and can be separated on the bottom side of the distillation tower and the component A can be efficiently purified by the method for purifying the isopropyl alcohol.

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